

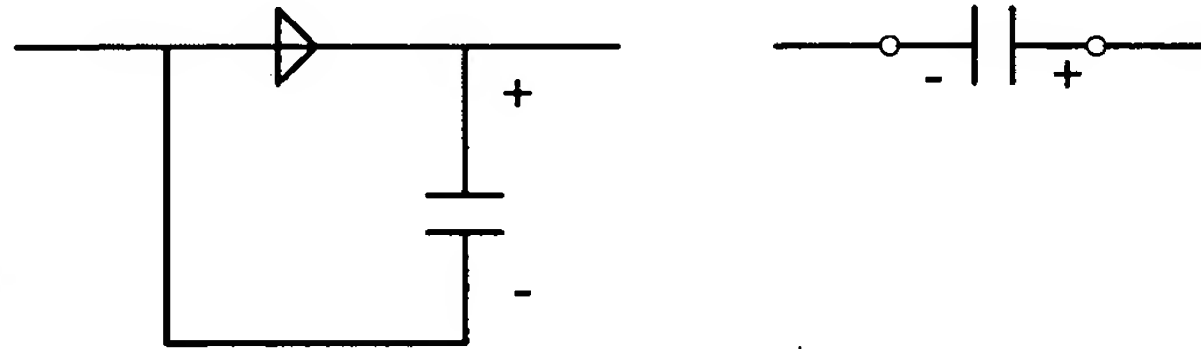
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 as being anticipated by Imi. The Examiner also rejected claim 12 as being indefinite, and objected to claims 7 and 20. The Examiner also indicated that claims 1-2, 6, 8, 15-16, and 19 could be anticipated by both Cernea and Yatabe and further indicated that claims 9-13 could be anticipated by Yatabe.

Applicant has canceled claims 1-20 and has added new claims 21-29. New claims 21-29 are directed to a voltage multiplier having a plurality of stages, where each stage has an input terminal and an output terminal and includes a capacitive circuit (e.g., a capacitor or group of electronic components forming a desired capacitance) with a first switch on a first terminal for switching the first terminal between an input terminal and an output terminal and a second switch on a second terminal for switching the second terminal between a common terminal (typically ground) and the input terminal. Claims 21-29 are clearly distinguishable over Imi because, among other things, Imi requires two switches located on the same terminal of the capacitor, whereas the presently claimed invention has the switches on different terminals of the capacitor. Also, in Imi, one capacitor terminal (i.e., the positive terminal) is permanently connected to the voltage rail, whereas, in the presently claimed invention, neither capacitor terminal is permanently connected to the voltage rail. When in the output state, the Imi invention places the capacitor in parallel with the voltage rail, whereas the presently claimed invention places the capacitor in series with the voltage rail. The configuration of switches in the Imi invention requires that each stage include a diode or other rectifying means, whereas the configuration of switches in the presently claimed invention allows for implementation without a diode or other rectifying means.

The following figures highlight major differences between the Imi invention and the presently claimed invention. The figure on the left shows the

configuration of a stage of the Imi invention in the output state (e.g, the initial stage of FIG. 1, with switch S1 closed and switch S2 opened). The figure on the right shows the configuration of a stage of the presently claimed invention in the output state (e.g., the first stage of FIG. 3, with both switches in the designated open position).



It is easily seen that the resultant circuits are very different. Applicant respectfully submits that Imi neither teaches nor suggests the presently claimed invention. Furthermore, neither Cernea nor Yatable appears to teach or otherwise suggest a voltage multiplier as presently claimed, as neither Cernea nor Yatable appears to have switches for selectively connecting the capacitors. Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the presently claimed invention is allowable over Imi, Cernea, and Yatabe.

2. All pending claims are believed to be in a form suitable for allowance. Therefore, the application is believed to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the application. The Applicant requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned, Jeffrey T. Klayman, if it will assist further examination of this application.

3. The applicants do not believe any extension of time is required for timely consideration of this response. In the event that an extension has been overlooked, this conditional petition of extension is hereby submitted, and Applicants request that deposit account number 19-4972 be charged for any fees that may be required for the timely consideration of this application.

Date: December 9, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



Jeffrey T. Klayman
Registration No. 39,250
Attorney for Applicants

Bromberg & Sunstein LLP
125 Summer Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02110-1618
Tel: (617) 443-9292
Fax: (617) 443-0004

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